

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/555,898

Examiner

SOPHIE HON

Applicant(s)

OCHI ET AL.

Art Unit

1794

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 7/9/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-4 and 9-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 11/19/09.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

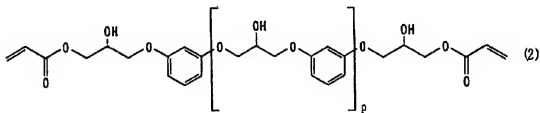
Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin Lemack on November 19, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. Cancel **claims 7-8**.

3. Rewrite **claim 1** as:

- - A sealant for liquid crystals comprising as essential ingredients (a) a radiation curable resin represented by the general formula (2):



wherein the number p of the repeating units is a positive number in the range of 0 to 20, which is obtained by subjecting resorcin diglycidyl ether to acrylic acid in an amount equivalent to the number of epoxy groups in the molecule of diglycidyl ether; (b) a radical photopolymerization initiator; and (c) an inorganic filler having an average particle diameter of 3 μm or less ; and further comprising (d) an epoxy resin and (e) a heat-curing agent, wherein the epoxy resin (d) is an epoxy resin which does not elute

into the liquid crystals in an amount of 0.5% by weight or more based on the liquid crystals when the epoxy resin is brought directly into contact with the liquid crystals whose amount is 10 times of the epoxy resin and is allowed to stand at 120°C for 1 hour. - - .

4. Rewrite line 2 of **claim 9** as:

- - according to claim [7] 1, wherein the heat-curing agent (e) is a - - .

5. Rewrite line 2 of **claim 11** as:

- - according to claim [7] 1, wherein the heat-curing agent (e) is a - - .

6. On **Page 1** of the **Specification**, below the title "SEALANT FOR LIQUID CRYSTAL AND LIQUID-CRYSTAL DISPLAY CELL MADE WITH THE SAME", delete the header "DESCRIPTION".

7. On **Page 1** of the **Specification**, below the title "SEALANT FOR LIQUID CRYSTAL AND LIQUID-CRYSTAL DISPLAY CELL MADE WITH THE SAME", insert as
Line 1:

- -This application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/06646 filed May 18, 2004. - - .

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The closest cited prior art of record, US 2002/0117259, fails to fairly teach or suggest, even in view of US 3,450,613, US 2002/01146559, US 6,156,816, US 5,596,023, US 3,294,748, US 3,901,833 and US 4,297,401, the sealant recited above. See Applicant's remarks dated 07/09/09.

Furthermore, it is noted that Applicant clarifies in the same remarks that Applicant's definition of p in general formula (2) as "a positive number in the range of 0 to 20" excludes 0 since zero is not a positive number.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample, can be reached on (571)272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sophie Hon/

Sow-Fun Hon

Examiner, Art Unit 1794